

Application No. 10/624,238  
Amendment dated December 9, 2004  
Reply to Office Action of September 9, 2004

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

Please amend claims 1 and 4, cancel claims 2, 3 and 6-8 without prejudice, and add new claims 9-11 as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) A dental brush for use on a dental rotary hand piece or on an electric toothbrush, comprising a bristly field having bristles disposed in an annular arrangement, wherein the length of the bristles of the bristle field decreases from the external radius of the bristle-field field to its center.

2. and 3. (Cancelled)

4. (Currently Amended) The brush of claim 1, wherein the bristles are made of a thermally resistant synthetic material ~~such as Aramide fibers, Kevlar fibers, or PEEK.~~

5. (Original) The brush of claim 1, wherein the bristles are comprise abrasive materials.

6-8. (Cancelled)

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9. (New) A method of finishing, polishing, or cleaning a tooth, comprising:
- obtaining a dental instrument including a dental brush having bristles disposed in an annular arrangement, the bristles having lengths that decrease from an external radius of the bristle arrangement to a center of the bristle arrangement;
  - engaging the tooth with the bristles of the brush; and
  - actuating the brush for rotary movement.
10. (New) The method of claim 9, further comprising:
- applying the brush to a convex surface of the tooth.
11. (New) The method of claim 9, further comprising:
- applying a prophylactic paste to the bristles.